

TOMBSTONE EPITAPH

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THE OLDEST NEWSPAPER IN COCHISE COUNTY

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Sheriff Harry Wheeler and his efficient force of deputies have established the reputation of capturing more contraband booze than any other Sheriff in Arizona, and if bootleggers throughout the state have as hard sledding as they do in Cochise county it can truthfully be said that theirs is a hard graft, especially when caught. Judge Lockwood has been handing out sentences under the law, putting them to hard labor on the county roads besides a cash fine. We venture the assertion that a bootlegger who has been nabbed and handed a stiff fine and a term at hard labor will not soon attempt to again become a bootlegger. The Prospector is proud to record the honor due Sheriff Wheeler and his deputies in upholding the law, when it is a known fact that they have to make the arrests and secure the convictions under the hardest of circumstances. A man who buys booze will, ninety-nine times out of a hundred, not "squeal" on the bootlegger who sells it to him, and it is therefore necessary for the officers (who are well known to every one about the county) to capture the violators with the stuff in their possession, bringing it into the state, in order to secure evidence enough to convict. And from the number of bootleggers caught, convicted and booze destroyed, we believe as we said before, the honor goes to the Cochise Sheriff's office.

Tomorrow is the last day in which you can do your Christmas holiday buying and at that it is late. You ought to have had your Xmas package off to their destination long before this.

Pretty soon it will be "Now for your New Year's Resolutions" instead of "Do Your Christmas Shopping Early."

Cheer up, boys, cheer up, only seven more days to leap year.

During the absence of the office force this morning someone, well posted on the "hanging" situation in Arizona, sneaked in the front door and left hanging on the wall, a sort of puzzle, which the "devil" hasn't been able to make out as yet. Three cravats (we suppose to represent the necktie party at the state pen) were hung on the wall; a black one representing Villalobos, the second a loud-colored green one, representing Faltin, and the third a deep brown, on which was labelled, "Kermeen." The only solution we have been able to make is that its mourning for Villalobos, lots of loud noise and joy for Faltin, and a deep study for Kermeen. Perhaps some of our readers could suggest a more plausible solution.

Messrs. Hayhurst, Bowden and the city police force are making Christmas a far from pleasant season for the bootleggers. They are doing excellent work and deserve the commendation of every law-abiding citizen. The worst feature of arrests made, however, is that every one feels certain only the outer edge of the whiskey ring is being touched. What they want to see is the arrest of the higher-ups.—Douglas Dispatch.

Money spent here stays here. But the money sent out of town to be spent with other merchants helps to build up that town instead of building up your home town. Why not spend your money at home, it will give you a chance to spend the same money again.

The people of Cochise county will probably elect Charley Roberts to the state senate next fall. The man from Dos Cabezas tells all grafters where to head in, and we hope to see him in the next senate.—Dunbar's Weekly.

The Tucson Star says that the Senator Weeks headquarters have flooded Arizona newspapers with cuts of Ralph Cameron carrying a few lines saying that Arizona will send a Weeks instructed delegation to Chicago. It further says that the newspaper offices are already overstocked with cuts of Cameron.

This office has a few to spare also.

Our contemporary the Houston Post, in speaking of big scraps says that the Bryan plan of "Love Me and the World in Mine" is no solution for international disputes. It is an entirely different proposition from his old song of "Hear Me and the Coin is Mine."

Whether three cent fare is equitable all over Arizona or not will be given another hearing shortly and its dollars to doughnuts that the subject is in for another siege in the courts.

There will be no need of a bond issue for good roads if the "bootlegger colony" of road workers keeps growing as it has the past week.

OLD BABACOMARI
LAND CASE RE-OPENED

By Joe Bush

TURNER, Ariz., Dec. 28.—For some time there have been rumors to the effect that Dr. E. B. Perrin, of Babacomari land grand fame, has succeeded in having the old Babacomari land case reopened, and that he expects to prove title to the lands which he originally claimed before the Court of Private Land Claims, established during President Harrison's administration.

Perrin's claim at that time was so weak that the Court threw it out. Afterwards he had the case reopened and was granted four leagues of land, amounting to about 32,000 acres, from the center monument at the old Roach ranch, and of which he has been in peaceful possession ever since, the government having granted him a patent to same.

According to present claim Perrin owns all the land from and including Nogales, as far east as Brookline, and Ft. Huachuca and Harshaw on the south, and to the Santa Rita mountains and Mesal Springs on the north.

There is some mysterious maneuvering about the matter, as there seems to be no authentic confirmation of the report other than that filings to the land grant have been rejected by the local land office lately.

The report seems hardly creditable but in view of the fact that the majority of the settlers hereabouts have been through the intricacies of land frauds before they proposed hiring counsel and try to assist Uncle Sam, and themselves incidentally, to keep his estate intact, and in the easy reach of the much desired homestead.

The Larrieu Brothers, J. S. Trowbridge, John Mahan, Fred Friedwald, John Akard and Barney Harmsen have organized a mining corporation called The Two Peaks Mining Company, with a capitalization of one million shares, the par value being \$2.50 per share. The company owns about 18 claims and have taken over an option on five additional claims, all situated in the Whetstone mining district, in this county.

The property is easily accessible by wagon road, being about ten miles from Huachuca Siding on the S. P. railroad, in a northwesterly direction, over a splendid road. Plenty of wood and water are available for all purposes up to the present stage of development. On the Buck claim, which has the most work done on it, there is a sixty-foot shaft, a 40-foot tunnel, and another 175-foot tunnel, with a cross-cut about 30 feet. In this tunnel about 15 feet from the entrance, it is all in ore assaying from 4.20% copper to 25%. In the shaft, the bottom of which is in ore, the value runs 10%. From this claim a car of ore was shipped to the Douglas smelters which run in excess of 6%. The average for the total distance of 105 feet, in the lower tunnel is 3.5%, with slight gold and silver values.

On the Devil's Cache claim there is a shaft 100 feet deep; at a depth of 70 feet a 60-foot cross-cut was run in and in the bottom of the shaft another cross-cut 50 feet. The assay values of this claim \$4.50 to \$5.00 per ton in gold and silver, and all carrying copper and vanadium.

On what is known as the Noriega group, which the company has under option, there is a 54-foot incline shaft, a 140-foot tunnel, at the end of which there is a 17-foot winze. At a distance of 110 feet in this tunnel, a cross-cut was run 18 feet connecting the shaft. At 125 feet in the tunnel there is a 10-foot raise and a small stope in ore running 6.00% copper, and at the intersection of the cross-cut and shaft there is seven feet of 5.5% copper ore and in the winze the ore runs 3.75% copper. The ore in the shaft the entire depth averages 3%. On the various other workings that have been done on the group good copper ore is found, though the work consists of location etc., but shows copper values wherever work of any nature has been done.

The company will have placed 50,000 shares of their stock on the market

at 25 cents per share, which will be disposed of locally, the proceeds from which will be used for the installation of machinery for the concentration of the large quantities of sulphide ores that have been encountered, also an air compressor and two drills. A tunnel will be driven a distance of 500 feet which will give them a depth of 700 feet under the present workings. The property is ideally located for economical development. A car of ore is in course of preparation for shipment the first part of next month. The personnel of the company is well known to Arizonians, and the fullest investigation of their claims is courted.

Who'll say Huachuca Siding is dead. The place was visited last week by a traveling circus, and two bootleggers, all of which had a tendency to enliven matters, after which a grand ball was enjoyed.

Three thousand fruit trees arrived last week and are being delivered by the local agent. The trees are from an Oregon nursery and the consignment consists principally of apple and peach trees, which will be planted in this neighborhood.

Last week one of the finest specimens of a wild hog ever seen in this section was brought in by Tom Larrieu from the Whetstone's, he having killed him after almost succeeded in killing his pet bull dog "French Frank". Tom says he heard a yelp in a canyon where the bull dog had gone into a heavy thicket where he ran onto a sow's nest. The dog's face was fearfully lacerated and torn, but he never gave up.

Thomas Robinson, formerly assistant postmaster at Ft. Huachuca, accompanied by Fred Friedwald and John Mahan came in from the Two Peaks mines Friday to spend Xmas with the Larrieus. They report matters at the mine in a prosperous condition, and that ore is being packed to the wagon road by burros, which will be hauled near for shipment to Douglas. Mr. Robinson states that, based on the reports of several prospective purchasers of stock in the Two Peaks Co., who examined the property last week, several more parties have engaged auto's for a trip out there this week and that a party of El Pasos will be on the ground about January 10th.

FARMERS' MEETING
HELD AT BENSON

Over 150 people filled the assembly room of the Benson High School Friday, December 17, to carry out a special agricultural program arranged by Principal H. Q. Robertson. The addresses were made by A. L. Paschall, farm advisor for Cochise and Santa Cruz counties, and Prof. S. F. Morse, superintendent of the University of Arizona agricultural extension service and state leader U. S. Department of Agriculture.

The other features of the program were musical numbers by pupils of the high school, and the debate, "Resolved that life in the country is more favorable to development than life in the city."

This debate, which was ably defended by both sides, was won by the negative. Following the program refreshments were served in the domestic science department.

The meeting was declared to be one of the best ever held in Benson and marks a growing interest in agricultural development throughout the San Pedro Valley. It is evident that the business men of Benson are becoming more and more convinced that Benson has a brilliant agricultural future, provided it farming resources are properly developed.

Wilcox A Granddaddy

A daughter was born Friday night to Mr. and Mrs. Harry Kolberg at the home of Mrs. Kolberg's mother, Mrs. George Wilcox on North Third avenue. Grandpa Wilcox is in Nogales on business but is expected to cut it short and hurry home to celebrate his granddaddyship.—Gazette.

CHRISTMAS DAY
ACCIDENT DAY

Christmas, in Old Tombstone, was not devoid of excitement in the way of auto accidents, when a collision, which resulted in but little damage, occurred, and with another auto turning turtle and the occupants barely escaping with their lives.

While rounding the corner of 7th and Fremont, the Overland of Dr. H. H. Hughart and the Buick of Dr. W. M. Randolph collided, before the machines could be stopped, and the only damage resultant was a bent fender on the Hughart machine, and a couple of badly scared motorists.

The second accidents occurred just after dark, when the Ford driven by Paddy McNellis, of Courtland, and containing Mr. and Mrs. Jack Wickstrom, daughter, and little son, and a man named "Red" Moore. While descending the steep hill just on side of town, while enroute to Bisbee, the driver swerved too far to the right with the result that the car turned completely over pinning the entire party under the machine. The only reason given, that the party was not killed, is that the top was up. Mr. Wickstrom tore his way out of the top and pulled his family out, with the result that one of his hands received a bad bruise and cut, which Dr. Hughart dressed. The machine was badly damaged but proceeded to Bisbee under its own power.

WOULD MAKE ARIZONA
A SEAPORT STATE

PHOENIX, Dec. 24.—The Young Men's Business association has placed itself behind the movement to have the error in the original survey of the Gadsden purchase corrected and to give Arizona seaports on the gulf of California and on the Pacific coast.

This movement has been under way, in a quiet way, for some months and the association yesterday telegraphed Senator Marcus A. Smith asking him to support it by every means at his command. The telegram to the senator was signed by M. T. Phelps, president, Dr. W. C. Gillespie, vice president, and Dr. F. H. Redewill, secretary of the association.

A formal resolution was passed and spread upon the association records endorsing the movement and calling upon all commercial and political organizations of the state to support it. This resolution has the formal endorsement of the governor of Arizona and the mayor of Phoenix.

MISUNDERSTANDING IN
SCHOOL LANDS

PHOENIX, Dec. 24.—"There is a belief prevailing that because some of the school land lessees have gone to court in objecting to the appraisal made by the land appraisers that it stops the sale of school land held by lessees who are not dissatisfied with the appraisal," said Land Commissioner W. A. Maier today. "This is not true. Every lessee who is willing to accept the appraisal recently made by the appraisers can get his or land sold if they will come to my office and see me about it."

Visited Old Tombstone

Among the visitors in the county seat today taking in the many old historic sights about the city were Editor W. A. Sherwood, of the Courtland Arizonan, and wife, Mr. and Mrs. L. E. King, and Mr. and Mrs. W. F. King, having motored over from Courtland this morning. The former Mr. King is chief engineer of the Douglas water works, and is on a leave of absence. Taking advantage of the opportunity the party decided while on a tour of the county that they couldn't possibly overlook the historic camp. While here they visited all the old landmarks and points of interest, including the old Modoc stage and Bird Cage. A pleasant visit to the Prospector and Epitaph offices was also recorded, and the party returned to Courtland this afternoon.

SETTLERS MUST PAY
IMPROVEMENT TAXES

PHOENIX, Dec. 29.—Several weeks ago A. B. Ming, assessor of Yuma county, sent a communication to the state tax commission, calling attention to the fact a number of inquiries had been directed to his office as to whether improvements on a homestead were to be regarded as taxable property before title to the land was relinquished by the government to the settler, and asking for an opinion on the question from the commission. The state body, being somewhat in doubt as to the law relating to the matter, turned it over to Attorney General Jones, and yesterday received word from Mr. Jones that in his opinion the improvements on a farm, such as fences, buildings, ditches, etc., are not to be regarded as government property, and must be considered subject to state and county taxes.

Judge William R. King, chief counsel of the United States Reclamation Service, recently gave out a statement in which he intimated that the improvements on a homestead were not to be taxed until the settler had obtained the patent to his land, and the matter had reached the attention of Mr. Ming. Judge King cited several instances in North Dakota where it had been held that the settler was only responsible for taxes on the land itself, and not for the improvements.

In rendering the opinion on the subject Attorney General Jones wrote as follows:

"I am in receipt of your letter of the 9th inst., accompanied by an opinion of Judge Wm. R. King, chief counsel of the Reclamation Service of Salt Lake City, Utah wherein he expresses the view that improvements upon lands in the state of Arizona are not taxable until the title of the United States is extinguished and the patent issued to the occupant of the land."

"I cannot yield to such an opinion, and do not think I should advise you along those lines. After examining the cases to which he refers, I cannot concede that the state has not the right to tax the improvements of the occupant upon such lands."

"I am this day writing to A. B. Ming, assessor of Yuma county, to this effect. I see no reason at this time, after consulting the authorities cited by Judge King, to advise that the state should abandon a policy which it has followed for years past."

FIVE SUSPECTS
ARE UNDER ARREST

GLOBE, Dec. 29.—Five Mexicans are in the county jail under suspicion in connection with the murder of a Chinese merchant and the wounding of a Mexican boy, which occurred in Solomonville recently. Four of the prisoners are also facing charges of burglary and are old offenders. With the arrest of the quartette charged with burglary, the county officials believe they have broken up the operations of a gang which has been robbing Globe and Miami rooming houses for some time past.

One of the Mexicans was arrested in Rice Sunday night by Sheriff Frank Haynes and Undersheriff Gene Shute upon information furnished by the authorities at Solomonville. The man prior to the time of the murder of the Chinaman, was employed on a section gang on the A. E. railroad near the scene of the crime. Immediately after the brutal deed had been committed the laborer disappeared without drawing the money due him or securing a pass. He was next heard of a Bowie, looking for a job and found working at Rice by the local officers.

PROMINENT CATTLEMAN
COMMITTS SUICIDE

Col. D. H. Johnston, a prominent cattleman and for many years one of the best known and most popular men in Cochise county, killed himself a few minutes before 10 o'clock Friday morning by firing a bullet into his brain from a .25 calibre automatic revolver. Death was instantaneous. The deed was committed in a moment of temporary despondency.

DOINGS IN THE
SUPERIOR COURT

TUESDAY

This morning Judge Lockwood of the Superior Court sentenced two bootleggers, who plead guilty to introducing liquor, and they will begin at once to serve their sentence. W. S. Reutlinger received sixty days and \$25, and Max Wood received ninety days and \$25. Other matters in the court were disposed of, including several divorce cases. The case of the State vs. Annie Old, charged with the killing of her husband, was set for hearing on January 10th, before Judge O'Connor of Santa Cruz county, Judge Lockwood being disqualified.

POPULAR COURTLAND
COUPLE MARRIED

At Courtland, Thursday, Miss Myrtle Ratcliffe became the bride of Clarence Brown, Judge Carlos E. Bolton, performing the ceremony.

The marriage is the culmination of a romance lasting several years, and while the engagement had not been generally announced, it had leaked out that they were to be wed, and the knot was tied last Thursday.

Friends in Courtland did not overlook the opportunity during the absence of the couple from their home to take possession of the house and placard and fix things to their liking, all of which was taken in good nature.

The couple are well known in Tombstone, and have many friends here, and during their visit here Christmas were busy receiving congratulations on a long and happy wedded life.

They will make their home at Courtland.

SAN DIEGO OFFERS
ARIZONA FREE SPACE

PHOENIX, Dec. 27.—A telegraphic offer of space at a nominal cost and probably at no cost at all, has been made by the officials of the exposition at San Diego to all Arizona. The wire containing the offer was received Thursday evening, and a special meeting of the directors of the Chamber of Commerce at Phoenix was held and action taken at once.

A resolution was adopted thanking San Diego for the offer, and calling on all commercial bodies to send representatives to a conference to decide on plans and work.

The conference will be held on Saturday, January 15th, at 10 a. m., and an urgent invitation is extended to all organizations to be fully represented.

Broke Booze

Deputy Sheriff Percy Bowden Saturday, at Silver Creek, broke up 288 bottles of confiscated bootleg booze, that had been captured from bootleggers who plead guilty at Douglas and were sentenced. Yesterday in the court house jail yard, Deputy Bowden broke fifty-two bottles of the contraband stuff which had been captured and the cases disposed of and all rights to the booze relinquished to Sheriff Wheeler for destruction. Deputy Bowden says that the 288 bottles of Bond & Lillard that he destroyed at Silver Creek burned like gasoline. Being a cold day he built a fire of sage brush and threw the cases of the stuff on the fire, which made a splendid blaze. The stuff here yesterday was slammed at the jail wall and the stench that emanated made the atmosphere smell like a distillery. There are 17 more cases now in the jail warehouse of captured stuff which will be broken in a few days, breaking all records in the state of booze captured and destroyed.

CASTORIA

For Infants and Children
In Use For Over 30 Years
Always bears
the
Signature of *Dr. J. C. Watson*